

Application No.: 09/551,332

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and each further including position indication means for developing position indication signals corresponding to the actual arcuate amount of rotation, the first processor means commanding motor movement in operative response to said position indication signals;

a command module including second processor means for translating a user input into telescope positioning signals suitable for transmission to the intelligent motor portion, the first processor means processing said positioning signals into motor motion commands; and

a communication bus coupled between the first and second processor means.

REMARKS

Initially, Applicant's Attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of Monday, March 5, 2001, in connection with the above-referenced application. In particular, Applicants attorney notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication of removal of the anticipation rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, in view of the proposed amendment to independent claim 20.

Applicants have amended claim 20 in order to recite that there are two intelligent motor portions, each coupled to a respective one of the two substantially orthogonal axes. Additionally, each motor portion includes first processor means for commanding motor rotation and each further including position indication means.

Applicants believe that allocating processor functionality between a command processor and separate motor processors, each performing separate and distinct functions, is a substantial improvement over the state of the art, particularly when considered in light of the Sky and Telescope article submitted with Applicant's Amendment in Response, dated December 19, 2000.

In this regard, Applicants would note that the particular arrangement of processor allocation, and the functions being performed by said processors is a powerful feature that enables capabilities heretofore unrealized in the prior art. As characterized by the Sky and Telescope article, such capabilities are considered "revolutionary" by those persons not only skilled in the art but considered authorities therein.

In view of the amendments made to the claims and the reasons for patentability set forth above, Applicants consider the application to be in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit notification of same and early passage to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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